

REMARKS

Forty-two claims were originally filed in the present Application, and claims 43-57 were subsequently added by amendment. Claims 1-19, 21-39, and 41-42 have previously been canceled, and claims 43-45 and 48-57 currently stand rejected. Claims 20 and 40 are allowed. Claims 46 and 46 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 46 is amended, and claims 43-45 and 48-57 are canceled herein. Reconsideration of the Application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Cancellation Of Rejected Claims

In the Final Office Action of March 11, 2005, the Examiner has indicated that claims 43-45 and 48-57 remain rejected. Because of the Applicant's wish to expedite the allowance and issuance of the present Application, the Applicant therefore refrains from further discussing the cited references, and instead, herein cancels currently-rejected claims 43-45 and 48-57 without prejudice, to thereby place the Application in condition for immediate allowance.

The Applicant expressly states that the rejected claims are not cancelled herein for reasons of patentability. The rejected claims are cancelled solely to expedite the allowance and issuance of the Application. Furthermore, the Applicant also reserves the right to seek allowance of any additional claims in Applications that may claim priority in the present Application.

Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraph 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 46 and 47 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant therefore herein amends claim 46 in independent form to include the limitations of the corresponding base claim and any intervening claims, to thereby place claim 46 in condition for immediate allowance. The claim 47 depends from amended claim 46, and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons.

Summary

Applicant submits that the foregoing amendments and remarks overcome the Examiner's rejections and objections. Because the cited references, or the Examiner's citations thereto, do not teach or suggest the claimed invention, and in light of the differences between the claimed invention and the cited prior art, Applicant therefore submits that the claimed invention is patentable over the cited art, and respectfully requests the Examiner to allow claims 20, 40, 46, and 47, so that the present Application may issue in a timely manner. If there are any questions concerning this amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/26/05

By: 

Gregory J. Koerner, Reg. No. 38,519
Redwood Patent Law
1291 E. Hillsdale Blvd., Suite 205
Foster City, CA 94404
(650) 358-4000